

Robin Gomez, Clarkston's New City Manager

By Terry Sanders

On December 4, 2018 during a regular Clarkston City Council meeting, a unanimous vote was casted approving the selection and hiring of Robin Gomez to replace retiring City Manager, Keith Barker.

Prior to assuming the Clarkston City Manager position, Gomez served as City Manager in Fairmont, West Virginia for three years. Before taking the Fairmont position, he spent almost 20 years of public service, including as city auditor, in Clearwater, Florida.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics from the University of Miami and a Master of Public Administration from the University of South Florida.

Gomez has established a reputation and successful track record as being an economic development and redevelopment creator and champion. He brings vast experience in dealing with and resolving issues surrounding housing, affordability and blight in a smaller city setting.

"For nearly two years I advocated for mindset changes about local diversity while working with a resident-led initiative to re-enact Fairmont's Human Rights Commission," stated Gomez.

He led the charge to advance more education, better awareness, and in convincing Fairmont city leaders and residents that a different world now exists surrounding diversity and that Fairmont could either embrace, celebrate it or get left behind in forfeiting the city's economic development, progression and growth.

A native of Mexico, Gomez migrated with his family to the US at the age of five when his physician father joined the US Air Force. Subsequent moves have landed Gomez in five addi-



Robin Gomez

tional US states including the most recent and exciting one, Georgia.

"Quickly learning new cultures and languages and adapting, have instilled a strong sense of community and re-enforced the importance of family, which are traits that I continue to embody in my daily life and that I will utilize as the City Manager for Clarkston," he stated.

It is anticipated that Gomez's first day on the job will be January 7, 2019. This will give Gomez and his family time to relocate from Fairmont to Clarkston.

"I very much look forward to meeting and interacting with the Clarkston staff, residents, and business owners and operators to quickly learn how I can begin to contribute to Clarkston's wonderful future on my first day. My family and I are ready to begin experiencing the fabulous charm and diversity that makes Clarkston a dynamic city to live, learn, work, and play," stated Gomez.

M E Cubed Engineering Opens Headquarters in Clarkston



President and CEO of M E Cubed Engineering, Kevin Champion, already lives in Clarkston, since 2004

and now he has relocated his business from the Spaghetti Junction area. Being able to live and work in Clarkston is a "win-win" for Champion and the city of Clarkston.

"With this move I am already 20% more efficient and productive with my time, because I can now walk from my home to the office; I no longer have to contend with Atlanta traffic. And I like the city with all of its development, like Streetscapes, it is a very diverse area which makes it a really good area to live and work in", said Champion.

M E Cubed is a full-service firm, not only specializing in mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP), but also architectural and civil engineering. The firm's mainstay is creating blueprints and specifications for building and constructing facilities of all shapes and sizes in providing engineering services that include calculations, cost

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TOP 9 Healthiest New Year's Resolutions!



New Year's resolutions are a bit like babies: They're fun to make but extremely difficult to maintain.

Each January, roughly one in three Americans resolve to better themselves in some way. A much smaller percentage of people actually make good on those resolutions. While about 75% of people stick to their goals for at least a week, less than half (46%) are still on target six months later, research suggests.

It's hard to keep up the enthusiasm months after you've swept up the confetti, but it's not impossible. This year, pick one of the following worthy resolutions, and stick with it. Here's to your health!

1 Stay in touch: Feel like old friends (or family) have fallen by the wayside? It's good for your health to reconnect with them. Research suggests people with strong social ties live longer than those who don't.

In fact, a lack of social bonds can damage your health as much as alcohol abuse and smoking, and even more than obesity and lack of exercise, a 2010 study in the journal *PLoS Medicine* suggests.

In a technology-fixated era, it's never been easier to stay in touch—or rejuvenate your relationship—with friends and family, so fire up Facebook and follow up with in-person visits.

2 Quit smoking: Fear that you've failed too many times to try again? Talk to any ex-smoker, and you'll see that multiple attempts are often the path to success.

Try different methods to find out what works. And think of the cash you'll save! (We know you know the ginormous health benefit.)

"It's one of the harder habits to quit," says Merle Myerson, MD, director of the Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program at St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals, in New York City. "But I always tell people to think of how much money they will save."

3 Save money: Save money by making healthy lifestyle changes. Walk or ride your bike to work, or explore carpooling. (That means more money in your pocket and less air pollution.)

Cut back on gym membership costs by exercising at home. Many free fitness apps and workout videos can get you sweating.

Take stock of what you have in the fridge and make a grocery list. Aimless supermarket shopping can lead to poor choices for your diet and wallet.

4 Cut your stress: A little pressure now and again won't kill us; in fact, short bouts of stress give us an energy boost. But if stress is chronic, it can increase your risk of—or worsen—insomnia, depression, obesity, heart disease, and more.

Long work hours, little sleep, no exercise, poor diet, and not spending time with family and friends can contribute to stress, says Roberta Lee, MD, an integrative medicine specialist at Beth Israel Medical Center, in New York City, and the author of *The Super Stress Solution*.

"Stress is an inevitable part of life," she says. "Relaxation, sleep, socializing, and taking vacations are all things we tell ourselves we deserve but don't allow ourselves to have."

5 Volunteer: We tend to think our own bliss relies on bettering ourselves, but our happiness also increases when we help others, says Peter Kanaris, PhD, coordinator of public education for the New York State Psychological Association.

And guess what? Happiness is good for your health. A 2010 study found that people with positive emotions were about 20% less likely than their gloomier peers to have a heart attack or develop heart disease. Other research suggests that positive emotions can make people more resilient and resourceful.

"Someone who makes this sort of resolution is likely to obtain a tremendous personal benefit in the happiness department," Kanaris says.

6 Go back to school: No matter how old you are, heading back to the classroom can help revamp your career, introduce you to new friends, and even boost your brainpower.

A 2007 study found that middle-age adults who had gone back to school (including night school) sometime

in the previous quarter century had stronger memories and verbal skills than those who did not. What's more, several studies have linked higher educational attainment to a decreased risk of Alzheimer's disease.

"You are gaining a sense of accomplishment by gaining new knowledge, and you are out there meeting people and creating possibilities that were never there before," Kanaris says.

7 Cut back on alcohol: While much has been written about the health benefits of a small amount of alcohol, too much tipling is still the bigger problem.

Drinking alcohol in excess affects the brain's neurotransmitters and can increase the risk of depression, memory loss, or even seizures.

Chronic heavy drinking boosts your risk of liver and heart disease, hypertension, stroke, and mental deterioration, and even cancers of the mouth, throat, liver, and breast.

8 Get more sleep: You probably already know that a good night's rest can do wonders for your mood—and appearance. But sleep is more beneficial to your health than you might realize.

A lack of sleep has been linked to a greater risk of obesity and type 2 diabetes. And sleep is crucial for strengthening memories (a process called consolidation).

So, take a nap—and don't feel guilty about it.

9 Travel: The joys and rewards of vacations can last long after the suitcase is put away. "We can often get stuck in a rut, and we can't get out of our own way," Kanaris says. "Everything becomes familiar and too routine."

But traveling allows us to tap into life as an adventure, and we can make changes in our lives without having to do anything too bold or dramatic.

"It makes you feel rejuvenated and replenished," he adds. "It gets you out of your typical scenery, and the effects are revitalizing. It's another form of new discovery and learning, and great for the body and the soul."

As cold weather approaches, it is important to take a few preventative measures to protect your home through the chilly months. Winterizing is generally a task that can be done relatively inexpensively, but will make a big difference in how comfortable your home is, and could end up saving you money on energy bills, too. In fact, many very effective home weatherproofing jobs are something that homeowners can complete without professional help.

Easy Home Weatherproofing

Some small weatherproofing jobs require little to no “handiness”, but can make a real difference once cold weather hits. By doing these things before the snow flies, you’ll be saving yourself some hassle (and possibly some money, too!):

- Clean gutters and downspouts in mid-fall and double-check them before winter.
- Replace the filter in your furnace.
- Close any vents in your home that may have been opened for the warm weather.
- Disconnect hoses from outside faucets and turn off the water.
- Buy a snow shovel and other winter supplies before the messy weather hits.
- Keep extra water and canned food in storage just in case.
- Test your heating system, so that you know it will work properly when you need it.
- Give your deck a fresh coat of sealer to protect it from the winter elements.

Home Weatherproofing Inspections

Though some homeowners might tackle these jobs themselves, there’s no substitute for a professional eye to ensure home efficiency through the cold winter months:

- Check the attic, walls, and basement for adequate insulation.
- Feel around electrical outlets and switch-plates for cold air, add insulation where necessary.
- Look around doors and windows for gaps and potential places where warm air can escape.



Home Winterization CHECKLIST

BE PREPARED

- Buy a snow shovel now so you'll have it before winter weather hits.
- Keep extra water and canned food in storage just in case.

GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS

- Clean gutters and downspouts in mid-fall and double-check them before winter.
- Install leaf guards to keep falling leaves and other debris out of cleared gutters.

DOORS & WINDOWS

- Examine doors and windows for gaps where warm air can escape.
- Caulk or apply weatherstripping around problem draft areas.
- Install double-paned windows to increase energy efficiency.

HEATING SYSTEM

- Replace the filter in your furnace.
- Give your heating system a test run so you know it will work properly when you need it.
- Hire a heating/cooling expert to check your furnace's efficiency.

ROOFING, CHIMNEYS & DECKS

- Have a contractor look for damaged roof shingles and loose gutters.
- Make sure chimneys and woodstoves are cleaned early in the season.
- Give your deck a fresh coat of sealer to protect it from the winter elements.

- Caulk or apply weather-stripping around problem draft areas.
- Have a contractor look for damaged roof shingles and loose gutters.
- Have a heating/cooling expert look at your furnace if you are unsure of its efficiency.
- Have chimneys and woodstoves cleaned early in the season.
- Test the flue for each fireplace for a tight seal when closed.

Weatherproof Windows

Though there are many places in the home where heat can escape, and cold air can enter, windows are one of the biggest culprits. In older homes, especially, having weatherproof windows can make a marked difference in your energy costs and how comfortable your living areas feel. In some instances, you might only need a bit of caulk or weather-stripping to weatherproof windows, but if your windows are well past their prime, consider replacing them with energy-efficient double paned windows to create a more efficient space.

M E Cubed Engineering Opens Headquarters in Clarkston

(Continued)



estimates and construction administration for commercial, educational, governmental, and aviation industries, to name a few.

Champion began his career in this industry after graduating from Georgia Tech and Morehouse in 2002. His concentration is electrical engineering which as he pointed out, is needed in every facility. Putting his experience to work, Champion was the leading electrical engineer on the Hartsfield-Jackson airport Concourse F. Other noted projects include the Mercedes-Benz Stadium, home of the Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta United (Major League Soccer 2018 Champions), Snapfinger Creek Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility, Charleston Air Force Base and Atlanta Beltline Trail.

With a clientele list of companies in a broad spectrum of industries and that includes the City of Atlanta, Clayton County and DeKalb County along with other municipalities, M E Cubed will continue its growth in Clarkston.

Champion would like to put his passion for engineering to work in building community engagement.

"Engineering is a building block for community engagement. I would like to mentor students that are interested in pursuing engineering educationally and as a career," said Champion. "I would love to get projects in Clarkston to start an internship program."

If you are wondering what the name stands for check out this equation: M E Cubed = Mechanical x Electrical x Energy x Efficiency.

A Day in the Life of Code Enforcement Officer, Shennetha Smith



While Code Enforcement Officer, Shennetha Smith's days may start the same, the unfolding of her day has to include time and patience for the unexpected.

"I start my day off by checking my emails, updating the cases that I am working in the I-Work software application that the City uses to input and track cases of complaints, building permits information and documentation. For research I use GovClarity to locate a property owner, parcel and addresses. And I also use DeKalb County's supplemental code enforcement webpage," said Smith.

Doing research and due diligence before hitting the streets pays dividends as Smith does compliance checks, compliant investigations, follow up and initial site inspections.

On this day, December 7th, we started our site visits at 815 Park North Boulevard. This was a follow up visit that resulted in Smith issuing a fire safety Notice of Violation. The point of contact (POC), was notified that if violations are not corrected by December 11, 2018, the business must cease to operate. POC promised to expedite repairs and that inspection of repairs would be completed by the December 11th deadline.

Another follow up inspection was conducted at 3628 Montreal Creek Circle because tenant's outside storage area was out of compliance, therefore a Notice of Violation was to be issued. Upon discovering that the resident was not respondent to knocks on front door, Smith placed the Notice of Violation on the front door. This Notice of Violation gave a compliance date of December 8th.

Next stop, 1250 Brockett Road to conduct an inspection of an out of control trash dump in the residential parking lot, supposedly caused by the trash compactor being broken. After documenting, via photos, this makeshift trash heap, Smith was approached by a resident that wanted an official site visit to her apartment to document several violations.

Upon entering the residence, Smith noticed two



caged dogs in the living room. Resident assured Smith that the dogs would not get out of the cage, nor attack. Moving into the master bathroom, resident told Smith about flickering lights, defective electrical outlets and taking a shower with a spider.

Smith called the maintenance supervisor and asked that he join us in that unit. After his arrival, the maintenance supervisor stated that these issues had already been brought to his attention and that the electrical inspector, who was on-site and contacted to ask that he also come to the unit, was already working on repairs after getting the necessary materials. As for the bugs, the maintenance supervisor said that the required pesticide bomb could not be done with the dogs in the apartment.

After witnessing the resident and maintenance supervisor reaching an agreement that the resident will be given advanced notice of when the exterminator is to arrive so that she, child and dogs could vacate the premises, Smith left the unit.

Going back to the trash dump violation, Smith went to the leasing office and issued a citation to property manager with a court date of January 9, 2019.

Several more inspections and site visits were done this day, and what became apparent was that Smith is dedicated to upholding code enforcement ordinances, processes and procedures to ensure compliance, adherence to laws and bettering the quality of life for residents and visitors in Clarkston.

On the way back to the office Smith noticed an illegal sign in the right-of-way, she parked the car, removed the sign, and documented contact information to process the issuance of a citation.

"I truly do enjoy doing my job, because in doing it, I get to purposely impact sustaining and improving the quality of life for everyone in Clarkston," said Smith

Here's to a productive day, with the unexpected, in the life of a Code Enforcement Officer Shennetha Smith in the city of Clarkston.

City of Clarkston Hosts Two (Development) Public Information Open Houses

City of Clarkston Parks & Trails Public Information Open House

The City of Clarkston requested and received residents' input, feedback for and selections of parks and trails designs, concepts and plans options for Clarkston's Peachtree Creek proposed by Alta Planning & Design firm, during the December 6th Parks & Trails Open House.

These parks and trails development are a part of the City's "A Park Within A 10-Minute Walk Of Home" grant and initiative.

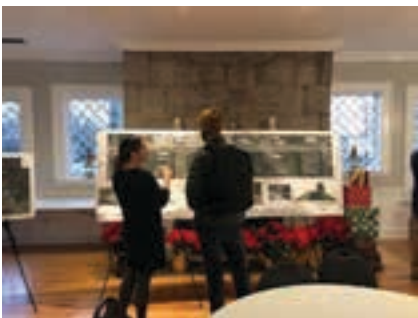


City of Clarkston SPLOST Projects Public Information Open House

And on December 11th the City of Clarkston invited residents to a Public Information Open House to give their input, to update and to increase awareness of the city's SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax) development plans and designs for pedestrian enhancements, a road diet and trailhead park improvements.

Specifically, preliminary plans and designs were unveiled at the Open House for North Indian Creek at Rowland Street installing a HAWK Pedestrian Signal and channelization of traffic on Rowland Street (SPLOST Project A), via the construction of raised concrete "right-in/right-out" island on both approaches to North Indian Creek on Rowland Street. Rowland Street Road Diet - Green Street (SPLOST Project B) in reconstructing the curb line to provide a curvilinear road footprint with poten-

tial with potential application of various traffic calming devices such as chicanes and an elongated speed table to be utilized as a crosswalk. Path Trailhead: Mell at Church Street (SPLOST Project C), constructing a trailhead park adjacent to the PATH Trail. Proposed improvements with the trailhead include benches, trash containers, a bike repair station, decorative fencing along Church Street, walking paths, a stone staircase, landscaping improvements and an information kiosk to include Clarkston's trolley that existed on the current "Jolly to Mell Avenue" PATH Trail. And, Church Street Pedestrian Crossing at CSX Railroad and various pedestrian improvements on East Ponce de Leon Avenue to include installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) signals, a decorative safety fence on East Ponce de Leon on the backside of the new sidewalk to minimize pedestrians movement across CSX tracks and right-of-way installation of a "bus pull-off" at the existing bus shelter (at Brockett Pub), new granite curb, street trees and landscaping (SPLOST Project D).



City Council Pre-Work Session Mixers

The City of Clarkston would like to thank everyone that attended, participated in and supported Clarkston City Council Pre-Work Session Mixers. Clarkston's Pre-Work Session Mixers are believed to be the first of its events kind to be held in DeKalb County. Thank you for making the Mixers a success!!

Started in April 2018, these monthly Mixers provided informal opportunities for Clarkston residents, City Council Work Session Stakeholders and the public at-large to mix and mingle with elected officials, City of Clarkston Administrative Staff, community and civic influencers and Special Guest(s) of Honor, before the regularly scheduled 7:00 p.m. Clarkston City Council Work Session.

We, the City of Clarkston, are looking forward to continuing these Mixers and to bringing more events and programs to all of Clarkston in on-going efforts to increase community and civic engagement!



October 30, 2018



November 27, 2018

Center for Victims of Torture and Center for Civil & Human Rights Celebrated 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

On November 1st, the Center for Victims of Torture in Clarkston partnered with the Center for Civil and Human Rights to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by presenting a free public program on the right of all human beings to live free from torture and the right of survivors to receive healing care.

The evening program, called Article V: We Stand Against Torture, featured Alberto Mora, former General Counsel of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Mr. Mora won the Profile in Courage award for his opposition to the use of torture after the 9/11 attack on the United States. Mr. Mora spoke about the temptations of torture in perilous times and debunked myths that torture is legal, moral, or effective.

CVT's Executive Director, Curt Goering provided a glimpse into the devastating impact that torture has on individuals, families and communities. He spoke about CVT's three decades of experience helping to restore the hope and rebuild the lives of survivors worldwide. Each year, CVT cares for approximately 25,000 survivors and family members through healing centers in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Jordan, St. Paul, Minnesota and now Clarkston, Georgia. The audience heard from one CVT client, via videotape, an amazingly brave and resilient businesswoman who had endured torture after speaking out against corruption in her home country and now lives a full and happy life with her family in the U.S.

Darlene Lynch, Head of External Relations in Georgia, shared CVT's enthusiasm for its newest U.S. center in Clarkston, where it hopes to serve the many refugee and asylum-seekers who have survived war, torture and other forms of violence on their journey to America. The Clarkston center provides free counseling, clinical case management and professional interpretation to all and is currently accepting referrals. All were welcomed to tour the Clarkston center and explore volunteer opportunities and other ways to help.

To make a referral or obtain services, call 470-545-2776 or visit www.cvt.org/where-we-work/georgia.

To arrange a tour of the center or learn about volunteer and other opportunities, email dlynch@cvt.org.

Photos courtesy of: Harmony Blackwell Photography (Facebook) and @harmonyblackwell (Instagram), <https://clients.harmonyblackwell.com/cvt-center-forcivilhumanrights/>



The Center for Victims of Torture in Clarkston presented a public program at the Center for Civil and Human Rights on the universal human right to live free from torture.



Alberto Mora, former General Counsel of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, speaks about his opposition to the use of torture after the 9/11 attack on the United States.



Guests had a chance to discuss the powerful myths surrounding torture, including myths that torture is legal, moral, or effective as a means of interrogation.



Pete Dross, CVT's Director of External Relations; Curt Goering, CVT's Executive Director; Darlene Lynch, CVT-Atlanta's Head of External Relations; and Alberto Mora, former General Counsel of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps and member of CVT's National Advisory Council.

DeKalb County Board of Health Launches Phase II of REACH Grant



DeKalb County Board of Health (DCBOH) hosted a REACH (Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) kick-off event to celebrate the successes of the 2014-2018 REACH grant (Phase I) and introduce strategies for the 2018-2023 REACH grant (Phase II).

There were education stations throughout the room that provided information on physical activity and nutrition. In addition, several Phase I partners displayed their REACH programming banners.

DCBOH District Health Director, Dr. S. Elizabeth Ford provided opening remarks and a Phase I overview. Additionally, DCBOH Community Healthy Assessment and Prevention Division Director, Dr. Richmond announced PHASE I successes. DCBOH thanked the Phase I partners for their efforts that contributed to the many successes aimed to increase physi-

cal activity, provide access to healthy foods, and improve community partnerships. Partner representatives from each strategy shared their experiences and programs' impact on the community. Additionally, a few Phase II partners were introduced that will work to improve nutrition, increase physical activity and build linkages to community health programs.

There were 47 attendees at the kick-off event. Attendees received a DCBOH bag with educational materials on physical activity and nutrition. In addition, there were 8 attendees that expressed interest in the Live Healthy DeKalb Coalition.

For more information about the DCBOH REACH grant (Phase I or Phase II), call District 3-5 Chronic Disease Prevention Coordinator, Omatola Gordon-Rose, at (404) 508-7847 or email dekalb.ocdp@dph.ga.gov



Author Fartumo Kusow Book Talk and Signing

The Somali American Community Center, CDF Action and the Glitter of HOPE Foundation sponsored a book signing and talk for the author of *Tale of a Boon's Wife*, Fartumo Kusow. *Tale of a Boon's Wife* is set in the years before and after the fall of the Somali government in 1991. Kusow uses Somalia's political structure as a vehicle to example "otherness".

Mayor Ted Terry opened the event with greetings and a welcome on behalf of the city of Clarkston.

Over 40 people attended this event held at Refuge Coffee and another 60 attended a similar event that took place in the Clarkston Community Center.

Kusow is from Somali and currently lives in Canada.



Recognitions

Congratulations to Clarkston City Councilwoman Yterenickia “YT” Bell



Councilwoman Yterenickia “YT” Bell has been selected to become a member of the Atlanta Belt Line 67 (AB67), for leading young professionals under the age of 45. Bell currently serves as a Councilwoman in the City of Clarkston, GA. She is also a three-time graduate of Georgia State University with a Bachelor’s in Criminal Justice and Political Science, as well as, a Master’s in Social Work and a Master’s in public administration with a concentration in Economics and Urban Planning.

City’s Court Clerk Retires After Nine Years of Service



The City of Clarkston would like to thank Shirley Green for her dedicated nine years of service as the Chief Court Clerk in Clarkston. Hired in September of 2009, Green worked to keep court services current and within compliance. Overseeing upgrades of the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC), a division of the Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI), as well as the upgrades for the Georgia Department of Drive Services.

Green has 40 years of previous law enforcement experience gained through employment with DeKalb County Sheriff’s office (27 years) and in Long Branch, New Jersey with the Long Branch Police Department.

She is a certified Terminal Agency Coordinator with GCIC, and she has held that certification since 1989. In April of 2017 she was awarded the Master Certificate of Court Administration from the Georgia Council of Court Administrators. Green holds active memberships in both the Georgia Council of Court Administrators and the Georgia Records Association.

While retiring from the City, Green’s call to serve will continue as she will travel to Florida to assist family members with hurricane recovery and rebuilding efforts.

Best wishes in entering the next chapter of your life!

Joseph Arnold Becomes City of Clarkston’s DeKalb County Torchbearer



In July 2018 Positive Growth held its first annual Minority Mental Health Symposium in Clarkston, bringing 100 Mental Health professionals in and around DeKalb County together “to shed some light on Minority Mental Health” issues, challenges, barriers and tolls on families and communities.

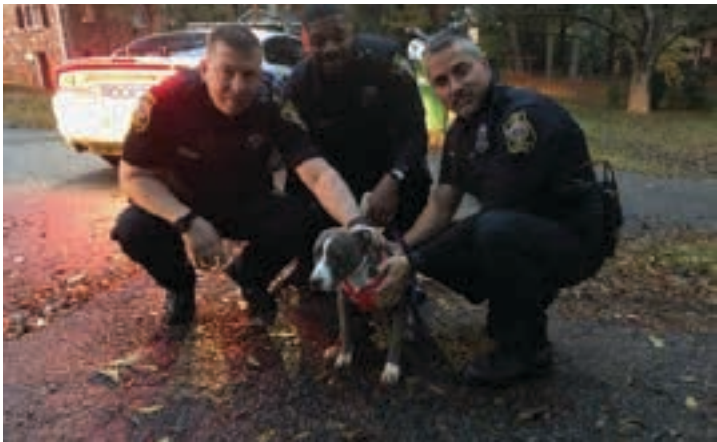
Heeding a direct request from DeKalb’s CEO Michael Thurmond for a City of Clarkston “Torchbearer” the City looked no further than Joseph Arnold, CEO and Director at Positive Growth, Inc. (PGI). This recognition included an article in DeKalb County’s “DeKalb Relay” newsletter.

The City of Clarkston (CoC) partnered with Arnold to sponsor Positive Growth’s Minority Youth Violence Prevention program, “Life Skills Coping”. This partnership facilitated the delivery of the program’s curriculum to more than 25+ targeted male and female youth participants in both of PGI’s Clarkston residential and education center, locations.

Throughout the course of the “Life Skills Coping” program, Positive Growth and the City collaborated to bring awareness to methods and strategies aimed at preventing violence in schools, and social environments, at home and in the Clarkston community at-large.

The City of Clarkston and Positive Growth, Inc. have forged and fostered a partnership that has become and will remain, timeless!

Clarkston Police Officers Rescue Abandon Dog



City of Clarkston Police Officers J. Priest, J. Boyd and A. Walker went above and beyond their daily call of duties by extending service and protection to a furry friend in need. On a cold and rainy night in November these officers made a stop at a local gas station only to find an abandoned dog locked inside of a cage. The dog had been exposed to the frigid weather for some time as the officers observed her uncontrolled shivering.

Officer Priest sprang into action in notifying a community rescue resource who gladly offered to help. The officers delivered the dog to this former DeKalb County animal control officer now living in Clarkston since April and who has already spayed and neutered more than 20 animals in Clarkston communities.

This former animal control officer appeared before City Council on December 4th to publicly commend these officers and to make the public aware of the huge stray, namely cat overpopulation, problem in Clarkston. And to increase awareness of how Clarkston can and should become a more animal responsible community.

It has been reported that the abandoned dog is now safe and is being trained and prepared for placement in a permanent home.

For more information about DeKalb County Animal Control, contact Tim Medlin tmedlin@dekalbcountyga.gov

If interested in learning more about spay/neuter, shot assistance and grant funds, please visit lifelineanimal.org and spotsociety.org

Pastor Adams Receives Public Service Proclamation



Clarkston City Council proclaimed December 4, 2018 as Pastor C.O. Adams, Jr. "Appreciation Day" during its council meeting. The proclamation was bestowed to Pastor Adams in recognition of his many years of dedicated public service in Clarkston, throughout Georgia, nationally and globally.

Adams is the Senior Pastor of Christ Community Praise and Worship Center, a ministry of the AME Church located in Clarkston since 2000. He has traveled to Africa twice, once to Capetown and secondly to Zimbabwe in which he was presented the keys to the city for preaching and conducting workshops at several of the churches in the 17th Episcopal; and while in Zimbabwe a bible college was named in his honor.

He is also an author having written "Joy for Today, Hope for Tomorrow" in 2013 a collection of inspirational writings and poetry.



**Bye-bye, chore.
Hello, bliss!**

- * Your home cleaning on a regular schedule
- * Licensed, insured & bonded
- * No tie-down contracts

Get acquainted with us at
ilovehomecleanhome.com
770-450-5955
Home Clean Home, LLC | 3904 N. Druid Hills Rd. #322 | Decatur, GA 30033

Save The Dates In 2019!

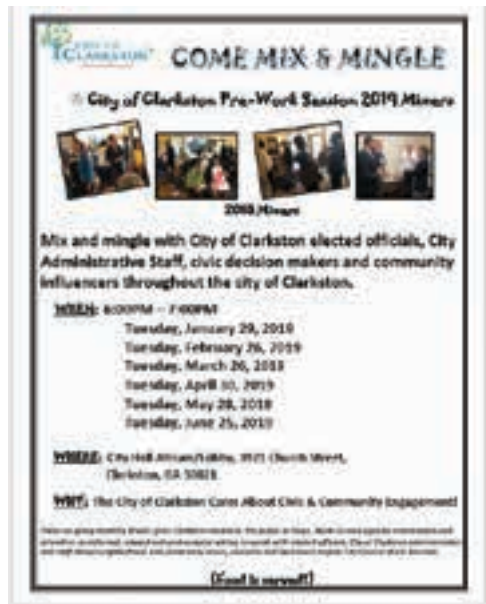
CITY OF CLARKSTON: 2019 PRE-WORK SESSION MIXERS SCHEDULE

The Last Tuesday of the Month

(Dates are subject to change accordingly.)

Clarkston City Hall

6:00PM – 7:00PM



CENTER FOR PAN ASIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES (CPACS)

Free/Low Cost Mammograms

Appointments are available twice a month

Contact: CPACS COSMO Health Center,
770.446.0929

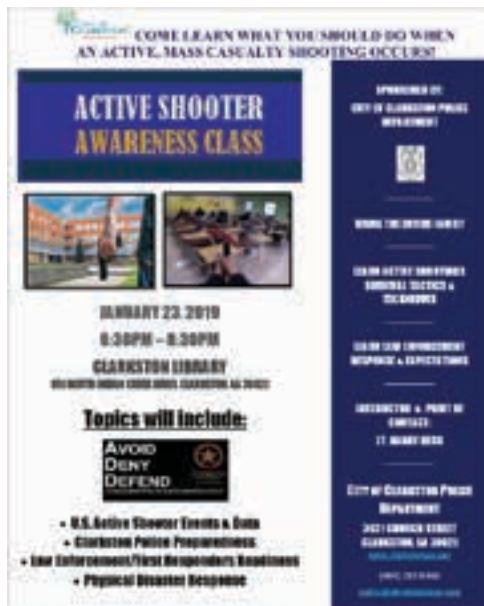


CITY OF CLARKSTON POLICE ACTIVE SHOOTER AWARENESS CLASS

Wednesday, January 23, 2019

Clarkston Library

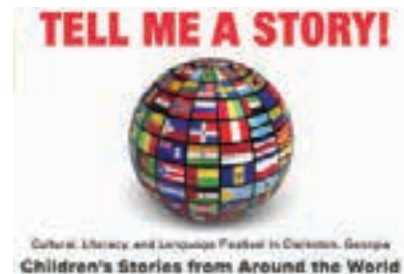
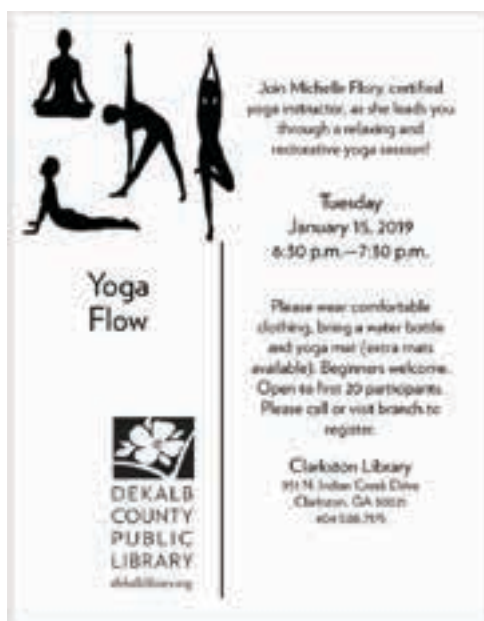
6:30PM – 8:30PM



CLARKSTON LIBRARY YOGA FLOW

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.



Clarkston Tell Me A Story! Cultural, Literacy and Language Festival

Saturday, September 7, 2019

Georgia Piedmont Technical
College Conference Center

Tentative Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Clarkston Culture Festival

April 27, 2019



Clarkston Early Learning Network & Hands on Atlanta Present: Talk With Me Baby! Initiative

Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 12:30 p.m.

Clarkston Library (951 North Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, 30021)

TALK WITH ME BABY @ WORK

BRING TALK WITH ME BABY @ WORK TO YOUR ORGANIZATION!

Hands on Atlanta will deliver:

- Trained facilitators and materials
- Tools to help communicate and connect the language
- Give up the impact of this program for your organization as well as provide information to increase employee engagement
- Access to other programs and resources for support families and young children

MEET SITE REQUIREMENTS

- Be dedicated for the three workshop sessions
- Have a quiet, safe, and comfortable environment
- Have a space for children and parents to interact
- Have a space for parents and children to interact
- Have a space for parents and children to interact

BRING TALK WITH ME BABY @ WORK TO YOUR ORGANIZATION!

Clarkston Branch Library at 951 North Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

TALK WITH ME BABY @ WORK

61% OF GA THIRD GRADE STUDENTS ARE NOT READING ON GRADE LEVEL

WHAT IS TALK WITH ME BABY @ WORK?

This program is designed to help parents and children learn to communicate and connect the language. It is a free program that provides parents with the tools and resources they need to help their child learn to read.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Research shows that children who learn to read early are more likely to succeed in school.
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- Research shows that children who learn to read early are more likely to succeed in school.

WHO IS TALK WITH ME BABY @ WORK FOR?

- Parents
- Children
- Grandparents
- Teachers

Hands on Atlanta

Hands on Atlanta Talk With Me Baby! Initiative, offers opportunities for free family workshops and a Clarkston train the trainer opportunities!



Clarkston Culture Festival planning meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month from 6pm-8pm at the Clarkston Woman's Club (3913 Church Street, Clarkston GA 30021)

January 10, 2019

February 14, 2019

March 14, 2019

April 11, 2019

Clarkston Culture Festival Day
April 27, 2019!!!

FREE HIV TESTING CLARKSTON LIBRARY

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Make a date to dispose of unused, expired and unwanted prescription drugs in Rx drop boxes in DeKalb County!

DEKALB COUNTY Board of Health

DeKalb County Board of Health is offering free INSTI Rapid HIV testing.

FREE HIV TESTING

Tuesday
January 15, 2019
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

No appointment necessary.

Clarkston Branch Library
951 N. Indian Creek Drive
Clarkston, GA 30021
404.608.1175

HOW to DISPOSE of Your MEDICATIONS

EVERY SINGLE DAY:

- Over 1200 people are treated in emergency rooms for missing prescription opioids.
- More than 40 people die from overdoses involving opioids.

2/3 of those who missed prescription pain relievers report they got them from family and friends, including their family's medicine cabinets.

MISUSE of a prescription drug means to use it in a way other than how it was prescribed.

ABUSE includes chronic or repeated misuse and/or taking the medication to experience a high.

CAN'T GET TO A DROP BOX? FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

1. This page with a return mail-in box, and keep it safe.
2. Place the return box in a secure container with a lock or a secure plastic bag.
3. Drop the box in a secure container or your local drop box.
4. Scratch out all personal information from the prescription container label before dropping it.

Many locations have drop boxes where unused & unwanted prescriptions can be dropped (including hospitals, pharmacies, and more).

Use Codes by: www.getitright.org

Prescription Drug Disposal Drop Box Locations in DeKalb County (By City)

City	Location	Address	Phone
Atlanta	DeKalb County Police Department	2000 Buford Highway NE, Atlanta, GA 30329	Phone: 404.351.1000
Chamblee	Chamblee Police Department	3330 Peachtree Road, Chamblee, GA 30138	Phone: 404.391.5000
Clarkston	Clarkston Police Department	3913 Church Street, Clarkston, GA 30021	Phone: 404.293.9000
Georgia State University	Georgia State University	100 North Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30030	Phone: 404.521.3000
Decatur	Decatur Police Department	400 West Peachtree Street, Decatur, GA 30030	Phone: 404.372.6000
Georgia State University	Georgia State University	100 North Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30030	Phone: 404.521.3000
Doraville	Doraville Police Department	3700 Peachtree Road, Doraville, GA 30095	Phone: 770.422.1000
Lawrenceville	Lawrenceville Police Department	1000 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30046	Phone: 770.962.1000
Stone Mountain	Stone Mountain Police Department	1000 Stone Mountain Parkway, Stone Mountain, GA 30083	Phone: 770.422.1000
Tucker	Tucker Police Department	3000 Tucker Road, Tucker, GA 30084	Phone: 770.422.1000
Dunwoody	Dunwoody Police Department	10000 Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA 30019	Phone: 770.422.1000
Georgia State University	Georgia State University	100 North Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30030	Phone: 404.521.3000

For more information go to www.getitright.org/talkback

CLARKSTON LIBRARY MOVIE: "Daughters of the Dust"

Saturday, January 19, 2019

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Doris K. Wells Heritage Festival

Largest look at the Gullah culture of the sea islands off the coast of South Carolina and Georgia where African folk ways were maintained well into the twentieth century. Rated PG.

Movie: Daughters of the Dust

Saturday
January 19, 2019
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Clarkston Library
951 N. Indian Creek Drive
Clarkston, GA 30021
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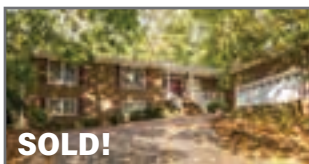
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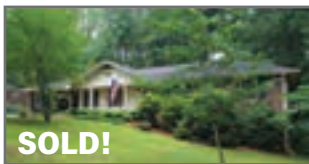
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